(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government would consider starting a train to Kerala from New Delhi which departs at night; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal for clubbing of Hazrat Nizamuddin-Ernakulam Millennium Express (Weekly) and Hazrat Nizamuddin-Trivandrum- Swarana Jayanti Express (Weekly) and running them as daily service due to operational and resource constraints.

(c) and (d) Due to operational constraints, at present, there is no such proposal under consideration.

(e) and (f) Introduction of 2283/2284 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Ernakulam Doranto Express (weekly) has been announced in the Railway Budget 2009-10. 2284 Hazrat Nizamuddin - Ernakulam Doranto Express (weekly) has been scheduled to leave Nizamuddin at 2135 hours on Saturdays.

Dedicated freight corridors

258. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have started work on dedicated freight corridors in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds allocated and utilized for the said corridors during last three years; year-wise;

(d) the details of works so far undertaken under the said project; and

(e) the time by when the said project would be completed and started for movement of freight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Contract has been awarded for the construction on Design-Build basis for design and construction from New Karwandia to New Ganj Khwaja (105 Kilometers) of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor and for 54 major and important bridges between Vaitarna and Utran of Western Corridor.

(c) The details of funds transferred to Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) by Ministry of Railways along with year-wise expenditure during the last three years is as under:

	Funds Transferred	Expenditure
2007-08	Rs. 81 crore	Rs. 07.45 crore
2008-09	Rs. 220 crore	Rs. 82.65 crore
2009-10 (till date)	Rs. 50 crore	Rs. 37.56 crore

(d) Final Location Survey of the entire Western Corridor and from Ludhiana to Sonnagar on Eastern Corridor have been completed. The details of contracts awarded are given in reply to (b) above.

(e) The project is targeted to be completed by 2016-2017 subject to land acquisition and availability of funds.

Time and cost overrun in certain railway projects

259. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been significant time and cost overrun in certain Railway projects;

(b) if so, the details of time and cost overrun of such projects;

(c) the major causes of delay and cost overrun;

(d) whether it is also a fact that land acquisition in various States has been a major cause of delay and cost overrun;

(e) if so, the details of such States; and

(f) the manner in which Government proposes to minimize the cost of overrun in these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Rail link and gauge conversion in Chhattisgarh

260. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in Rao Ghat rail link and Raipur-Dhamtary gauge conversion in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether the State Government and other agencies are yet to meet some requirements; and